AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

1-2. (canceled).

3. (previously presented): A method of laminating first and second disc-shaped substrates in order to form a disc product comprising the following steps;

1) bonding an adhesive agent to a surface of the first disc-shaped substrate,

2) placing the second disc-shaped substrate on the adhesive applied to the first disc-shaped substrate,

3) pressing the first disc-shaped substrate against the second disc-shaped substrate by means of a pressing body by applying a first pressure level to join them and form a disc product, and

4) exposing both the disk-shaped substrates joined as a disc product to a high-pressure atmosphere at a second pressure level greater than said first pressure level.

4. (currently amended): A method of laminating first and second disc-shaped substrates in order to form a disc product according to claim 3, further comprising:

pressing an adhesive sheet with the adhesive agent applied thereto against at least one of the first and second disc-shaped substrates from one end to the other end, and

bonding the adhesive agent to the surface of the first disc-shaped substrate in such a manner that the adhesive-backed sheet is pressed against the substrate.

5. (currently amended): [A method of laminating disc-shaped substrates according to claim 3] A method of laminating first and second disc-shaped substrates in order to form a disc product comprising the following steps;

1) bonding an adhesive agent to a surface of the first disc-shaped substrate,

2) placing the second disc-shaped substrate on the adhesive applied to the first disc-shaped substrate,

3) pressing the first disc-shaped substrate against the second disc-shaped substrate by means of a pressing body by applying a first pressure level to join them and form a disc product, and

4) exposing both the disk-shaped substrates joined as a disc product to a high-pressure atmosphere at a second pressure level greater than said first pressure level,

said method further comprising~~;~~ :

holding the pressing body against the second disc-shaped substrate so as to magnify a contact portion from the center side to the outside in a step of pressing the second disc-shaped substrate against the first disc-shaped substrate by means of a pressing body in a state whereas the pressing body is held against said disc product in such a manner that a contact portion may be magnified from the center side to the outside.

6. (currently amended): [A method of laminating disc-shaped substrates according to claim 3] A method of laminating first and second disc-shaped substrates in order to form a disc product comprising the following steps;

1) bonding an adhesive agent to a surface of the first disc-shaped substrate,

2) placing the second disc-shaped substrate on the adhesive applied to the first disc-shaped substrate,

3) pressing the first disc-shaped substrate against the second disc-shaped substrate by means of a pressing body by applying a first pressure level to join them and form a disc product, and

4) exposing both the disk-shaped substrates joined as a disc product to a high-pressure atmosphere at a second pressure level greater than said first pressure level,

said method further comprising~~"~~ :

holding the pressing body against the second disc-shaped substrate in such a manner that a contact portion may be magnified from the center side to the outside, said holding step being conducted while said first and second disc-shaped substrates are held within the high-pressure atmosphere.

7. (currently amended): [A method of laminating disc-shaped substrates according to claim 3] A method of laminating first and second disc-shaped substrates in order to form a disc product comprising the following steps;

1) bonding an adhesive agent to a surface of the first disc-shaped substrate,

2) placing the second disc-shaped substrate on the adhesive applied to the first disc-shaped substrate,

3) pressing the first disc-shaped substrate against the second disc-shaped substrate by means of a pressing body by applying a first pressure level to join them and form a disc product, and

4) exposing both the disk-shaped substrates joined as a disc product to a high-pressure atmosphere at a second pressure level greater than said first pressure level,

said method further comprising:

applying a first hold down pressure in a step of bonding the adhesive agent to the surface of the lower disc-shaped substrate, and

applying a second hold down pressure in a step of pressurizing the second disc-shaped substrate against the first disc-shaped substrate by means of the pressing body, thereby magnifying pressure of the high-pressure atmosphere.

8. (currently amended): [A method of laminating disc-shaped substrates according to claim 3] A method of laminating first and second disc-shaped substrates in order to form a disc product comprising the following steps;

1) bonding an adhesive agent to a surface of the first disc-shaped substrate,

2) placing the second disc-shaped substrate on the adhesive applied to the first disc-shaped substrate,

3) pressing the first disc-shaped substrate against the second disc-shaped substrate by means of a pressing body by applying a first pressure level to join them and form a disc product, and

4) exposing both the disk-shaped substrates joined as a disc product to a high-pressure atmosphere at a second pressure level greater than said first pressure level,

said method further comprising:

performing said pressing step and said exposing step at a single one of a plurality of processing locations.

9. (previously presented): A method of laminating disc-shaped substrates according to claim 8 wherein said plurality of stations are on a turntable and said method further comprises moving said disc shaped substrates to plural stations in a predetermined sequence.

10. (currently amended): A method of laminating disc-shaped substrates according to claim [3] 7 wherein said exposing step results in a disc product wherein the maximum dimension of each of a multiple of air bubbles is less than 50 micron.